

Congresswoman Kaptur and officials from the Toledo Area Farmers Market Association broke ground today on a construction project to improve and modernize the Toledo Farmers Market in downtown Toledo.

“The construction to update Toledo’s central Farmers Market will create jobs in our community. As the market extends its business season, vendors will ‘grow’ local sales.

This improved site provides free-market availability for family farmers, small businesses, local growers and consumers from the Toledo-area and beyond,” Kaptur said.

The Toledo Farmers Market, traditionally a summertime venture, will be open this winter after of the construction of new bay enclosures, full-heating units, a new drainage system, streamlined platforms, updated restrooms, and a new office to conduct business.

Congresswoman Kaptur helped secure a federal award of approximately \$270,000 for the project from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development via the Economic Development Initiative.

The Toledo Farmers Market accepts the Ohio Direction Card, making fresh products available for those who receive SNAP & WIC benefits, but also for seniors who participate in the successful Senior Farmer’s Market Coupon Program, which Congresswoman Kaptur pioneered a decade ago and has now been replicated around the country.

“Having locally-grown nutritious food available for our seniors and our at-risk population is vital to the well-being of our entire community. My hope is accessibility will increase to these groups due to the extended season,” Kaptur relayed.

Kaptur noted that more than 70 vendors offer their products at various times throughout the summer. The economic impact is substantial both for local producers as well as people who work and live downtown.

“The completion of this project, slated for December, also marks continuous improvements in the heart of the Warehouse District. Through hard work and dedication, we continually rebuild this part of the city, as we go about rebuilding our community and America one step at a time,” Kaptur said.